

WASHINGTON CROP WEATHER

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Crop and Weather Information for the Week Ending June 17, 2001

WEEK IN BRIEF:

Cherry harvest was underway
Cool dry conditions slowed hay production

FIELD CROPS

Cold temperatures and lack of precipitation slowed growth and development of winter wheat and spring planted cereals. Re-crop ground was reported to be in the worst condition. Some frost damage was also reported. Dry bean planting neared completion. Christmas tree farmers were busy monitoring fields for aphid infestations. Turfgrass producers were irrigating and harvesting turf fields.

LIVESTOCK

Cool temperatures and little precipitation have slowed hay production and had producers concerned about fall and winter supplies. Range and pasture conditions were 4% very poor, 18% poor, 50% fair, and 28% good. Second cutting of alfalfa began in some areas. Green chop and silage harvesting continued.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Cherry harvest was underway for early varieties in many counties. Reports have sweet cherry harvest running about a week behind normal. Color harvesting of bing cherries in the Yakima Basin will begin this week. Strawberry harvest continued under dry conditions. Canada thistle infestations caused problems for some raspberry producers. Cool temperatures hampered sweet corn development. Green pea harvest continued.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork	
This Week	Last Week
6.3	5.6

Soil Moisture	Soil Moisture and Supply			
	% Acreage			
Soil Type	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	10	25	65	-
Subsoil	10	45	45	-
Irrigation Water	-	5	95	-
Hay and Roughage	-	5	95	-

VS=Very Short, SH=Short, AD=Adequate, S=Surplus

Crop Progress				
Crop/Activity	% Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2000	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	57	24	65	55
Winter Wheat Headed	92	76	91	90
Barley Headed	52	31	60	51
Corn Emerged	98	95	100	60
Dry Beans Planted	99	88	99	94
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	89	85	87	71

Crop Condition *					
Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	4	42	50	2
Winter Wheat Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Spring Wheat Dryland	3	11	52	34	-
Spring Wheat Irrigated	-	-	5	95	-
Barley Dryland	1	9	52	38	-
Barley Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Dry Beans	-	-	4	96	-
Corn	-	-	5	95	-
Potato	-	-	5	95	-

VP=Very Poor, P=Poor, F=Fair, G=Good, EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measure of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

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COUNTY COMMENTS

WESTERN

Clallam/Jefferson: Both counties received rain early in the week, but the area continued to have below average precipitation for this season. Hay supplies for fall and winter continued to be a concern. Irrigation canals were showing good supplies.

Snohomish: Snohomish County began the week with record breaking rain and cool temperatures. The remainder of the week was normal to cooler than normal. Local strawberries could be found at most farmer's markets and roadside stands. The cool spring weather put a lot of crops behind in growth. No reports of crop damage have been reported.

Snohomish (2nd Report): Heavy rains were received early in the week. Crop growth was slow due to the cool weather. Pastures were growing well and green chop/silage making continued. Strawberry harvest was underway. Raspberries and blueberries were progressing through the bloom stage, and the fruit was forming. Apples were sizing up. Rainy weather will probably increase scab problems on unsprayed fruit.

Grays Harbor: Unseasonably cool temperatures resulted in slow growth on sweet corn. Livestock owners were frustrated with cool, cloudy conditions, which prevented hay harvest. Christmas tree growers were monitoring Grand fir trees for aphid infestations. U-Pick vegetable farms complained about rapid weed germination after Monday's heavy rain. Commercial

raspberry growers continued to battle Canada thistle infestations. Dairymen continued making green chop. Forage fields continued to grow rapidly under nearly ideal conditions. The heavy rain on Monday, alleviated most grower's drought concerns, at least temporarily.

Grays Harbor/Lewis: Based on the forecast, the cool weather is about to end. This should help the corn and get the hay harvest started.

Pierce/King: Heavy rain, early in the week, shut down field activities. Early lettuce and strawberry harvest was underway. Rhubarb harvest continued.

Pierce/Thurston: Crop conditions improved over the last few weeks. Some vegetable and fruit crops, in the area, were ready to be harvested. There were no unusual situations to report.

Thurston: Over an inch of rain fell early in the week, which further delayed the hay harvest. Commercial strawberry harvest began in the middle of the week, under cool and cloudy, but dry conditions. Christmas tree growers complained about birds breaking leaders on Noble fir trees. Organic vegetable growers reported strong demand for produce at the Olympia Farmer's Market. Turfgrass growers, dairymen, and blueberry growers all turned on irrigation systems by week's end.

CENTRAL

Franklin: Temperatures were normal for the month. The days were good for growing and doing fieldwork. Spotty rains were received, but it appeared the cherry crop will come out of it with little damage. Otherwise, it was a good weather week for all crops.

Franklin (2nd Report): Temperatures were consistently warm during the week. The first cutting of alfalfa was complete and a second cutting began. Cherry harvest also began.

Grant: Green pea harvest continued. Sweet corn planting continued. Summer fallow work was in progress. Dryland fertilization for winter wheat was almost complete. Cherry harvest was underway in the southern part of the county. Apple hand thinning continued. Fuji apple bagging began.

Okanogan: Most of the first cutting of alfalfa received some rain, while in the windrow.

Okanogan/Ferry: Most of the first cutting of hay has been cut and put up. A lot of the hay had rain damage, but not too extensively. Range conditions appeared poor, at this time, and there were reports of livestock water sources drying up. Winter wheat looked fair.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from normal to 13 degrees above normal. Precipitation for the month was nearly normal, with .03 inches of rain received on June 12. No crop losses, due to weather conditions, were reported.

Yakima (2nd Report): Early cherry varieties were harvested with minimal cracking from the rain. Some color harvesting of Bing cherries, in the warmest areas, will start this week. Overall, cherry harvest was running about a week behind normal.

EASTERN

Adams: Hot, dry conditions persisted. Spring planted cereals were in poor to very poor condition, because of the early, hot weather, freezing nights, and very little to no precipitation.

Asotin: Dry weather continued to hurt crops and yield potential. Rangeland continued to deteriorate.

Garfield: Cool, but windy weather helped the growth of cereal crops and especially canola and pulse crops. Wind dried shallow sites, and they were visible all over the region now. Expectations are for average crops, unless hot wind and temperatures during anthesis occurs.

Lincoln: Cool temperatures with little rain were seen during the week. Numerous reports were received of pastures being short. Also, the hay production was down due to drought and frost. Grain crops looked good.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Hot, dry conditions hurt both spring and winter cereal conditions. Frost damage was also present.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: The weather was a mixed bag. Rain was received in some parts of the two counties, but was scattered. It really depended on what cloud you were under. Crops were not growing

very fast due to the cool weather. The hay and pastures were really suffering with producers estimating a yield reduction greater than 50 percent of normal. Late frost was hurting the crops the most. Winter wheat was starting to head out in most of the county. Some hay was being swathed with the forecast looking better for hay making weather.

Stevens: The county received much needed rain showers during the week. The weekend was warm and sunny. Hay producers started swathing the first cutting of alfalfa.

Walla Walla: Cherry harvest began. Daytime highs were still on the cool side. Some parts of the county received rain during the week. Some leaf hoppers were feeding in isolated wheat fields and were of no economic consequence.

Whitman: Crop conditions were quite variable, across the county, ranging from poor to good, depending on the location. Re-crop ground was clearly suffering the most from the dry conditions, although, direct seeded crops seemed less stressed. Grazing conditions continued to decline, particularly on rangelands on the western half of the county.

WEEKLY WEATHER STATISTICS

June 18, 2001

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	43	64	54	-5	28	-31	0	-7	0.92	0.50	3	25.18	-7.64	77	136
Everett	44	63	53	-7	28	-38	0	-14	1.86	1.37	2	23.19	-9.93	70	132
Hoquiam	45	62	54	-4	28	-22	0	-7	0.88	0.38	3	41.54	-23.06	64	152
Kelso	39	70	55	-6	35	-33	0	-14	0.24	-0.27	2	18.71	-24.72	43	120
Olympia	39	68	53	-6	24	-35	0	-7	1.12	0.70	2	29.17	-18.90	61	130
Seattle-Tacoma	45	65	55	-6	36	-39	0	-16	1.30	0.95	2	23.16	-11.67	66	119
Shelton	43	69	55	-6	37	-37	0	-19	0.73	0.31	1	38.97	-23.32	63	137
Tacoma	45	66	55	-7	32	-42	0	-15	1.50	1.08	2	24.86	-12.66	66	127
Vancouver	42	70	57	-5	48	-25	0	-19	0.28	-0.13	2	21.93	-16.89	56	132
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	40	74	56	-7	45	-40	0	-27	0.03	-0.11	2	6.46	-1.66	80	69
Omak	40	80	59	-3	69	-11	11	-14	0.14	-0.19	1	5.19	-7.66	40	57
Stampede Pass	30	54	42	-7	0	-14	0	0	1.63	0.93	3	51.68	-25.20	67	157
Wenatchee	43	77	61	-6	76	-39	16	-32	0.18	0.04	2	4.98	-2.45	67	64
Yakima AP	37	79	59	-6	63	-38	12	-25	0.03	-0.11	1	3.98	-3.26	55	58
NORTHEAST															
Colville	40	79	56	-5	47	-32	0	-24	0.89	0.54	3	11.70	-7.04	62	71
Deer Park	34	73	52	-10	17	-62	0	-24	0.32	0.04	4	12.24	-4.24	74	103
Spokane AP	38	75	55	-8	36	-46	1	-24	0.06	-0.22	1	9.49	-5.17	65	90
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	42	79	60	-9	72	-55	15	-44	0.02	-0.10	2	4.81	-1.71	74	65
Moses Lake	42	80	59	-10	62	-65	6	-53	0.16	0.04	3	6.10	-0.42	94	60
Quincy	44	76	61	-6	78	-31	17	-27	0.05	-0.09	1	5.12	-1.98	72	56
Ritzville	34	77	55	-8	39	-45	0	-26	0.00	-0.14	0	8.83	-1.43	86	71
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	46	81	62	-9	86	-58	22	-53	0.07	0.00	1	5.40	-0.49	92	58
Pasco	41	83	61	-8	79	-53	19	-44	0.17	0.10	1	7.37	0.54	108	68
Pullman	36	71	52	-7	20	-45	0	-18	0.09	-0.26	2	11.69	-7.24	62	99
Walla Walla AP	44	77	59	-9	64	-57	8	-45	0.26	0.01	1	14.87	-2.93	84	89
Whitman Mission	40	79	58	-8	59	-47	4	-38	0.64	0.43	2	13.10	0.72	106	93
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A'AP	37	73	53	-10	25	-63	0	-26	0.64	0.15	3	14.96	-8.08	65	93
Lewiston ID	45	81	59	-8	65	-50	6	-42	0.11	-0.17	2	10.43	-0.08	99	93

Summary based on NWS data.

Season CUMulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2000

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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